URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BEDWELLTY

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE

Year ended 31st December, 1948

SIRHOWY VALLEY PRESS, BLACKWOOD

Bedwellty Urban District Council

1948-1949.

Chairman : Councillor E. J. BUTLER, J.P.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor J. ROBERTS.

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,, D. Davies
,, D. Samuel
,, John Thomas
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,, R. Lanagan
,, W. H. Alderman
,, A. G. Parfitt
Alderman J. J. Panes, O.B.E.
,, Evan Thomas, J.P.

Clerk to the Council : D. Hilton Lewis, Esq.

Housing, Highways and Public Health Committee.

Councillor F. O. Sainsbury (chair)
,, G. H. Hodges (Vice-chair)
,, R. Lanagan
,, E. R. Edwards
,, David Davies
,, D. J. Samuel
,, Lewis Lewis

Councillor W. B. Morris
,, John Thomas
,, W. H. Alderman
,, Idris Bowen
Alderman E. Thomas, J.P.
,, J. J. Panes, O.B.E.

Health Department Staff.

Medical Officer of Health (part-time)	S. R. Macmillan, M.B.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	Dan Powell, M.B.E., M.R.S.I., F.S.I.A. (Qualified Meat & Food Inspector)
Sanitary Inspector	Arthur M. Coleman, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (Qualified Meat & Food Inspector)
Shops and General Inspector ...	Dan Thomas
Rodent Operator	Sidney Parker
Public Ambulance Driver	Elias Jones
Public Ambulance Driver (spare) ...	Thomas Williams
Fever Ambulance Driver	James Norris
Junior Clerk	J. C. Bowen

Isolation Hospital Staff.

Medical Superintendent (part time)	S. R. Macmillan, M.B.
Matron	A. M. Valder, S.R.N.
Staff Nurses	A. G. Stephens, S.E.A.N.
Assistant Nurses	M. Carter, S.E.A.N.; E. Price, S.E.A.N.
Student Nurse	B. Pritchard
Caretaker	J. Norris

Summary of Statistics for 1948.

Area of the District in Acres	7,3[illegible]
Population at Census (1921)	31,088
Population at Census (1931)	30,074
Estimated Population for Births and Death Rates ...	28,680
Number of Inhabited Houses (31st December, 1947)	6,452
Number of Persons per house	4·4
Rateable Value (1st April, 1947)	£98,478
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	£341
Number of Births	703
Nett Birth Rate	24·5
Number of Illegitimate Births	35
Number of Deaths of Residents	325
Nett Death Rate	11·31
Number of Deaths under one year	48
Of these there were Illegitimate	2
Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Births	68·27
Number of Women Dying from Child-birth (Sepsis and Other Causes) ...	1
Number of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis ...	22
,, ,, ,, Influenza ...	3
,, ,, ,, Bronchitis ...	19
,, ,, ,, Pneumonia ...	18
,, ,, ,, Measles ...	0
,, ,, ,, Circulatory Diseases	81
,, ,, ,, Cancer ...	33
,, ,, ,, Industrial Disease	15

Year	*Births*	*Deaths*
1943	688	308
1944	693	288
1945	636	323
1946	703	300
1947	756	331
1948	703	325

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Public Health Department,
Municipal Offices,
Aberbargoed, Mon.
30th September, 1949.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Bedwellty Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my **ANNUAL REPORT for the year ending 31st December, 1948.** The Report is compiled in accordance with the Circular of the Welsh Board of Health.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

The Area of Bedwellty is 7,355 acres and is both industrial and rural in character.

Population.

The population estimated by the Registrar-General for the mid-year for calculation of birth and death rates was 28,680.

Dwelling-houses.

122 new houses were built during the year.

INDUSTRIES IN THE AREA.

Elliot Collieries, New Tredegar (Steam Coal).
Bargoed (Steam and House Coal).
Coke Ovens and By-Products, Bargoed.
Gwaelodywain Colliery, Aberbargoed (Steam Coal).
Britannia Colliery, Pengam (Steam Coal).
Pengam House Coal Colliery.
Budds' Colliery, Blackwood (Small House Coal Colliery).
Markham Colliery (Steam Coal).
Brown's Foundry, Blackwood. (Making a variety of several castings. Employs 50 men.)
Prestonit Factory, Pengam. (Jewellery.)
Salter & Roberts, Upholstery, Blackwood.
Blackwood Engineering Co. (Employs 10 men.)
West Mon. Omnibus Board, Blackwood.
Craton's, Aberbargoed. (Machines for carton making.)
N. Corah & Sons, Aberbargoed. (Textiles.)
Remploy Factory, Blackwood. (Employment of disabled miners.)

RATEABLE VALUE.

The Rateable Value of the Area on March 31st, 1949, was £98,478; the sum represented by a penny rate was £341, and the rate for the financial year was £1 in the £1.

BIRTHS DURING 1948.

Births registered during the year in the Area were:—

	Males.	*Females.*
Legitimate	342	326
Illegitimate	11	24
Total ...	353	350

Live birth rate per 1,000 population ...	24·5
Percentage illegitimate to legitimate ..	5·24%
Still births	10
Still birth rate per 1,000 population ...	0·34

The births for the previous years may be compared:—

1948	1947	1946	1945	1944
703	756	703	636	693

Birth Rate.

The birth rate at 24·5 per 1,000 population is very much higher than that of England and Wales or the County of Monmouth, which are 17·9 and 19·2 per thousand population respectively.

The still birth rate at 0·34 per 1,000 population is better than that of 1947, and is lower than that of England and Wales at 0·42 per 1,000 population and the County of Monmouth at 0·51 per 1,000 population. There were no still births among the illegitimate babies.

DEATH RATE.

The death rate after correction of inward and outward transfers was 325.

The death rates for previous years may be compared:—

1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943
11.31	11.78	10.7	11.5	10.15	11.1

Monthly Deaths of Males and Females.

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
January	20	13	33
February	13	14	27
March	16	10	26
April	9	16	25
May	12	11	23
June	9	12	21
July	14	12	26
August	13	9	22
September ...	14	14	28
October	13	12	25
November ...	17	13	30
December	17	22	39
Totals ...	167	158	325

The death rate at 11·31 is lower than 1947, but is still higher than any other year since 1942, and is higher than that for England and Wales (10·8) and for the County of Monmouth (11·1).

Of the 325 deaths, nearly 40% were over 65 years of age and 18% were over 75 years of age.

Circulatory Disease.

This group accounted for 81 deaths—more than any other group.

Respiratory System.

There were 47 deaths from this cause.

Tuberculosis.

There were 22 deaths—19 from pulmonary and 3 from non-pulmonary. This shows a continued decrease during the last four years. The notifications of new cases were as follows:—

	1948	1947	1946	1945
Non-pulmonary ...	7	6	13	22
Pulmonary ...	36	35	38	42

The lack of hospital beds necessitates a time lag of 6—12 months from the diagnosis of the disease until admission to hospital. Many of these people live in overcrowded and insanitary houses, and this delay is prejudicial to their recovery.

Cancer.

Thirty-three deaths were recorded—8 fewer than the previous year.

Pneumoconiosis.

There were 15 deaths from this disease during the year.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The deaths under one year were 48—giving an infantile mortality rate of 68·27 per 1,000 births registered.

In 1944	the rate was	60·6	per 1,000 births.
,, 1946	,,	45·5	,,
,, 1945	,,	48·6	,,
,, 1947	,,	51·58	,,
,, 1948	,,	68·27	,,

Deaths of Infants Under 1 Year during 1948.

Under one week	18
One week to two weeks	3
Two weeks to three weeks	0
Three weeks to four weeks	3
Total under 1 month	24

One month to three months	9
Three months to six months	7
Six months to nine months	7
Nine months to twelve months	1
Total	48

Comparison of Infantile Mortality.

Bedwellty U.D. ...	68·27	per 1,000 births
Monmouth County ...	43·7	,,
England and Wales ..	34·0	,,

Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.

Scarlet Fever	0
Diphtheria	0
Whooping Cough	4
Measles	0

Maternal Mortality.

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 births (live and still).

	Puerperal Sepsis	*Others*	*Total*
Bedwellty ...	0	1·4	1·4
Monmouth County ...	·32	1·60	1·92

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

The maternal mortality rate is still lower than that of the County of Monmouth. No deaths resulted from puerperal pyrexia. There was 1 death due to complicated birth.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The infantile mortality rate of 68·27 per 1,000 live births compares very unfavourably with that of England and Wales and the County of Monmouth. Of the 21 deaths in the first two weeks 15 were due to prematurity and congenital debility. Now that the hospitals have been taken over, a department at one of the larger hospitals should be instituted, properly equipped and staffed, under the care of a paeditrician, where these premature infants could be sent, and in this way many deaths could be avoided. Many of these babies live in overcrowded conditions, where the mothers are unable to give them all the attention they require.

Three deaths were due to Whooping Cough—now the most serious of infectious diseases.

Five deaths were due to diarrhœa; no causative organism being found in cases notified. Again, suitable hospital accommodation is urgently required for this type of case, where the personnel are fully trained to deal with them.

Causes of Death Under 1 Year.

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	4 wks—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	
Maramus	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	3
Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	—	5
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prematurity	12	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	15
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	3
Bronchitis	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	3
Convulsions	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	3
Other Causes	3	—	—	1	3	—	2	—	9
Congen. Debility	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Violence	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	3
Totals	18	3	—	3	9	7	7	1	48

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

508 cases were notified during the year, with 4 deaths due to whooping cough.

Scarlet Fever.

47 cases were notified and there were no deaths. The disease is still of a mild type.

Diphtheria.

Only 1 case was notified.

Pneumonia.

Nine notified cases.

Erysipelas.

Three cases were notified.

Whooping Cough.

Ninety cases were notified compared with 25 during 1947; there being 4 deaths under 2 years of age. This is now the most serious of the infectious diseases. Preventive inoculation is only carried out on a small number of children, so no conclusion can be drawn as to the effectiveness.

Measles.

358 cases compared with 145 during 1947. This again was not of virulent kind, and many of the complications were prevented or cured by the sulphonomides and antibiotics. No deaths were recorded

HOSPITAL.

On 5th July the Isolation Hospital was transferred to the Rhymney and Sirhowy Valley Regional Hospital Board.

The number of patients treated at the Hospital will be found in the Tables.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality.

The following table shows the new cases of tuberculosis and the deaths from the disease during 1948:—

Age Period in Years	NEW CASES						DEATHS					
	Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
0—1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ...	3	1	4	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	2
5—15 ...	3	3	6	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	1	1
15—25 ...	3	5	8	—	2	2	1	2	3	—	—	—
25—35 ...	4	6	10	1	—	1	2	3	5	—	—	—
35—45 ...	1	1	2	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—
45—55 ...	3	—	3	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	—	—
55—65 ...	2	—	2	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	—	—
65 and Over	1	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	—	—
Totals ...	20	16	36	2	5	7	14	5	19	1	2	3

Occupational Incidence of Tuberculosis.

Occupation.	*Pulmonary*	*Non. Pulmonary*	*Total*
Male Cases.			
Miner	7	0	7
Old Age Pensioners ...	1	0	1
Ex-H.M. Forces	1	0	1
Schoolboy	4	1	5
Unemployed	0	0	0
Apprentice Bricklayers ...	0	0	0
Factory Workers	0	0	0
Civil Servant	1	0	1
Gardener	2	0	2
Transport Driver/Bus Conductor	1	1	2
Medical Practitioner ...	1	0	1
Under School Age	2	0	2
Female Cases.			
Factory Worker	2	0	2
Housewife	10	0	10
Nurse	1	0	1
Schoolgirl	2	2	4
Under School Age	1	1	2
Domestic Duties	0	2	2

Monthly Incidence of Notification of Tuberculosis.

Month	*Pulmonary*	*Non-Pulmonary*	*Totals*
January	2	2	4
February	5	1	6
March	2	1	3
April	6	1	7
May	2	0	2
June	2	0	2
July	3	1	4
August	1	0	1
September ...	3	0	3
October	3	0	3
November ...	2	1	3
December ...	5	0	5
Totals ...	36	7	43

Sanatorium Treatment of Tuberculosis, 1948.

Santorium	*Pulmonary Cases*		*Non-Pulmonary Cases*	
	Ad-mission	*Dis-charge*	*Ad-mission*	*Dis-charge*
Addelina Patti Hospital, Swansea	3	1	0	0
Cefn Mably Hospital	3	6	0	0
Glan Ely Hospital	1	2	3	4
Sully Hospital	2	3	0	0
North Wales Sanatorium ...	1	0	0	0
Memorial Annexe, Chepstow ...	3	4	0	0
Energlyn Isolation Hospital ...	2	1	0	0
Gelligaer Isolation Hospital ...	1	0	0	0
City Isolation Hospital, Cardiff	1	0	0	0
Mardy Hospital	1	2	0	0
Totals	18	19	3	4

Bedwellty Area Patients, 1948.

Ward	Diphtheria	C.S.F.	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Other Diseases	Totals
Phillipstown	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Tredegar ...	—	—	3	1	1	5
Aberbargoed	—	—	2	—	1	3
Pengam	—	—	1	—	1	2
Cefn Fforest	—	—	—	—	4	4
Markham	1	1	—	1	—	3
Blaekwood	—	—	—	—	1	1
Argoed	—	—	1	—	4	5
Hollybush	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	1	7	2	12	23

HOSPITAL PROVISION.

(a) Fever.

Isolation Hospital, Coedymoeth Common, Aberbargoed, with 36 beds.

(b) General.

The only General Hospital in the Area is at Aberbargoed. There are facilities for X-ray and surgical operations.

(c) Maternity.

Provision is made at the County Infirmary, Tredegar, Llanfrechfa Grange, and Lydia Beynon Maternity Home.

(d) Hospitals for Children.

There are no Children's Hospitals in the Area.

(e) Tuberculosis.

King Edward VII Memorial Association provide Sanatorium Treatment facilities.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

(a) Venereal Diseases.

Patients attend Clinics at Royal Gwent Hospital.

(b) Tuberculosis.

Clinics are provided at Pontllanfraith and Caerphilly for patients in the Sirhowy and Rhymney Valleys respectively.

(c) Ante Natal Clinics.

(1) New Tredegar: Wesleyan Schoolroom.
(2) Pengam: Vine House.
(3) Aberbargoed: Methodist Chapel Schoolroom.
(4) Blackwood: Baptist Chapel Schoolroom.
(5) Markham: 46, Abernant Road.

(d) School Clinics.

Vine House, Pengam: Teeth and Vision and Orthopædic.

The Ante-Natal and School Clinics are under the control of the County Council.

Ambulance Cases conveyed to and from each Ward.

New Tredegar	92	Markham	22
Aberbargoed	141	Argoed	18
Pengam	150	Hollybush	20
Cefn Fforest	82	Other cases	2
Blackwood	66		
Total	593		

DEATHS.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1948.

Cause of Death.	Total	Under 1 year	1—2 years	2—3 years	3—4 years	4—5 years	5—10 years	10—15 years	15—20 years	20—35 years	35—45 years	45—55 years	55—65 years	65—75 years	75 & over
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Resp. Sys. ...	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	2	3	3	3	—
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ...	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ac. Inf. Enceph.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer : Uterus	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1
Cancer : Oesophagus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer : Stomach & Duodenum	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	4	—
Cancer : Breast	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1

Diabetes	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1
Intracranial Vasc. Lesions ...	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	9	13
Heart Diseases	78	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	4	16	25	[illegible]
Other Circulatory Diseases ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Bronchitis	19	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	5	5
Pneumonia	18	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	5	4	4
Other Resp. Diseases	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	3	2	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea, under 2 years ...	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2
Nephritis	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	3	4	—
Puer. & Post Abort. Sepsis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Premature Birth	15	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Con. Mal. Birth Inj.	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suicide	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—
Road Traffic Accident	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Other Violent Causes	8	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1
All other Causes	45	11	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	3	6	10	6	5
Totals	325	48	1	1	1	1	2	3	7	11	15	33	61	76	65

Total Number of Journeys from 1st January—5th, 1948.

Case Numbers 9,565—10,158.

Cardiff Royal Infirmary ...	148	Llanfrechfa Grange Maternity Home	
Royal Gwent Hospital	247	Llwynypia Hospital	
County Infirmary, Tredegar ...	74	St. Mellons, Cardiff	5
County Hospital, Panteg ...	55	Lydia Beynon Maternity Home	1
Tredegar Workmen's Hospital	21	T.B. Clinic, Caerphilly	1
Oakdale Hospital	7	Whitehureh Hospital	5
Nursing Home, Tredegar ...	3	P.D. Hospital, Aberbargoed ...	3
Vine House Clinic, Pengam ...	1	Houses, Streets, etc.	10
Bath Rheumatic Hospital ...	1	Regent House, Chepstow ...	1
The Clinic, Goldtops, Newport	2	Abergavenny Maternity Home	4
The Clinic, County Hall, Newport	1	Prince of Wales Hospital, Cardiff	1

An average removal of 22 patients per week. Mileage : approx. 19,148 miles.

Ambulance Boxes.

Every Ward in the Area is provided with an Ambulance Box, and they are maintained by the St. John Ambulance Association.

Schools.

All Schools in the Area are visited from time to time by the Inspector. The Rodent Officer also calls at the schools and when necessary (on the instructions of the County Architect, Mr. Colin Jones) baits the premises.

Laboratory Facilities.

This work is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health. Samples of milk, water, ice-cream, etc., are reported upon by Dr. R. D. Grey.

Swimming Pools.

There are no swimming pools in the Area—the two nearest are at Bargoed and Pontllanfraith.

Water Supply.

The water supply is of good quality. Samples are regularly taken and the results show no contamination.

Pithead Canteens and Baths.

There are five canteens and three pithead baths. These are visited by the Inspectors of the Health Department.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Practically the whole of the Area is connected to trunk sewers which have a sea outfall. The only unsewered portion of the Area is at Manmoel.

The Council are a constituent member of the Western Valley Sewerage Board and of the Rhymney Valley Sewerage Board.

Rivers and Streams.

Washings from collieries pollute rivers in both valleys. River banks are rat baited regularly by the Rodent Officer in

conjunction with the Rodent Officers of adjoining Authorities.

Closet Accommodation.

The water carriage system is almost universal throughout the Area.

Public Cleansing and Scavenging.

The scavenging (daily collection) is carried out under the direct control of the Surveyor (Mr. T. J. Jones).

Rainfall.

I am obliged to the Surveyor (Mr. T. J. Jones) for the following particulars:—The rainfall during 1948 was 62·62 inches as compared with 51·05 inches in 1947. The wettest month was January with 10·91 inches, and the driest month was July with2·04 inches.

Food Supplies.

Supervision of preparation and handling of foodstuffs has received special attention, and the staff of the Health Department have given advice to food handlers and encouragement to employees of cafés to keep a high standard of hygiene.

Rodent control is a helpful factor in maintenance of hygiene, and every effort is made to keep food premises free from infestation by rats and mice.

There were no food poisoning outbreaks during the year.

Mortuary and Post Mortem Room.

The Mortuary and Post Mortem Room, which is under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector has again been used on numerous occasions during the year.

Camping Sites.

There are no camping sites in the Area.

Shops.

Regular inspection of shops has been carried out during the year, and generally speaking the shops are of a good standard.

Summary Proceedings.

Enforcement of the provisions of the Public Health Act and Food and Drugs Act has been carried out during the year through the Clerk to the Council.

In this, my last Report, I wish to record my appreciation of the services and co-operation of the Councillors and Officials, especially the Matron and her Staff of the Isolation Hospital, and Mr. Dan Powell, Chief Sanitary Inspector, and his Staff of the Public Health Department.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

S. R. MACMILLAN,

Medical Officer of Health

Analysis of Total Cases and Deaths from Infectious

CASES NOTIFIED. Age Groups.

Disease.	Under 1 year	1—2 years	2—3 years	3—4 years	4—5 years	5—10 years	10—15 years	15—20 years	20—35 years	35—45 years	45—65 years
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	1	4	3	5	22	10	2	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	1	2	1
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encoph. Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentry	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles & German Measles	25	44	57	55	50	122	4	—	—	1	—
Whooping Cough	4	15	19	12	16	21	2	—	1	—	—
Other Diseases, etc.									—	2	—
Totals	33	60	81	71	71	167	16	3	2	5	1

Diseases according to Age Groups during the Year 1948.

DEATHS. Age Groups.															
65 & over	Total all ages	Under 1 year	1—2 years	2—3 years	3—4 years	4—5 years	5—10 years	10—15 years	15—20 years	20—35 years	35—45 years	45—65 years	65 & over	Total all ages	No. admitted to hospitals
—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
—	47	47	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	9	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	8	18	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	358	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
—	90	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
1	511	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	8	22	21

Tuberculosis is not included in this summary.

Notification of Infectious Diseases in Registration Wards and Quarters during 1948.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	Totals	WARD: Phillipstown	New Tredegar	Aberbargoed	Pengam	Cefn Fforest	Blackwood	Argoed	Markham	Hollybush &	Manmoel	QUARTERS: 1.	2.	3.	4.
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	47	4	37	4	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	15	2	5	25
Pneumonia	9	4	3	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	5
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	36	2	4	10	5	4	5	1	5	—	—	8	8	8	10
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	7	1	1	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	6	2	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Whooping Cough	90	21	50	7	6	3	3	—	—	—	—	11	3	20	56
Measles	358	112	200	25	10	—	6	—	5	—	—	8	32	189	129
Totals	554	145	300	49	24	9	15	1	11	—	—	54	48	224	228

Outside Area Patients (1st January—July 5th, 1948).

Area	C.S.F.	Scarlet Fever	T.B. Meningitis	Diptheria	Pneumonia	Whooping Cough	Streptococcal Meningitis	Pneumococcal Meningitis	Other Diseases	Totals
Abergavenny U.D.C.	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
Crickhowell R.D C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rhymney U.D.C.	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	3
Ebbw Vale U.D.C.	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Risca U.D.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blaenavon U.D.C.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Pontypool U.D.C	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	4
Abercarn U.D.C.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Abertillery U.D.C.	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	3
Mynyddislwyn	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blaina & Nantyglo U.D.C. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Brynmawr U.D.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Usk R.D.C.	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Cwmbran U.D.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Monmouth	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
St. Mellons	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bedwas & Machen	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Totals	2	2	2	7	1	1	1	1	8	25

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Public Health Department,
Municipal Offices,
Aberbargoed, Mon.
30th September, 1949.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Bedwellty Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my **ANNUAL REPORT** on the work done in the Department during the year ending 31st December, 1948.

Notices Served.

(*a*) Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 92 and 93 (abatement of nuisances):

Intimation Notices	261
Abatement Notices	102

(*b*) Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 83 (Cleansing of Premises):

No. of Notices	6

(*c*) Public Health, 1936, Sec. 138 and Water Act, 1945 (Provision of sufficient water supply):

No. of Notices	10

Housing Act, 1936.

The number of dwelling houses inspected and recorded under the above Act was 209. During the Inspections, cases of over-crowding were discovered.

Council Houses.

Number of houses inspected for cleanliness, state of gardens, etc.	705
Prospective tenants visited and reports submitted to the Accountant	189
Number of transfers inspected	12
Empty houses inspected	16

Rent and Mortgages Interest Restriction Act.

Two certificates were granted under the above Act.

Tuberculosis.

There were 43 cases of Tuberculosis notified and an inspection was made of all cases regarding the accommodation, etc., also particulars of the patient and family. Records are also kept of admissions and discharges from Sanatoria.

Infectious Diseases.

Number of Infectious Diseases notified	511
Number of Patients removed to Isolation Hospital ...	23
Number of Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease	40

Isolation Hospital.

On the 5th July the Hospital was transferred to the Rhymney and Sirhowy Valley Hospital Board.

Common Lodging Houses.

There is one Common Lodging House in the Area—Bowen's Workmen's Home, High Street, Blackwood—and this was visited on several occasions during the year. Very few persons occupy this place.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act 1922.
Milk and Dairies Order 1926.

Number of cowsheds on register	31
Number of retail purveyors on register ...	43
Inspections of cowsheds	34
Inspections of milkshops	10
Notices to limewash	3
Notices complied with	3

Milk Samples.

Samples of milk have been taken during the year for bacteriological examination and for the detection of tuberculosis. 31 samples were taken and seven were found to be unsatisfactory. In each of these cases the vendors were communicated with and further samples taken.

Ice Cream.

Number of places where ice cream is manufactured, stored or sold	43

No samples were taken during the year because there were no facilities at the County Laboratory for examination. All premises where ice cream was made were regularly inspected and advice given when necessary.

Factories Act, 1937.

Number of factories with mechanical power ...	29
Number of factories without mechanical power	41
Number of outworkers	Nil

Regular inspections have been carried out at these factories.

Certificates of Means of Escape from Fire (Section 34 of the Factories Act 1937) have been issued in the case of newly occupied factories.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

Licences have been issued during the year as follows:—

Dealers' Licences for sale of Pasteurised milk	28
Dealers' Licences for sale of Accredited milk	3
Dealers' Licences for sale of Tuberculin tested	12
Licences in respect of Bottling Establishments	1

It will be noted that the consumption of designated milk is on the increase.

Water Supplies.

Ten notices were served on owners of property to provide an adequate water supply.

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

The number of children immunised during 1948 was 465. Of these 44 were under 1 year of age; 1—5 years, 135, and 5—15 years, 286.

This work is done by the Staff of the County Council.

Rats and Mice Destruction.

Business premises, Council property, private dwellings and sewers have been rat baited during the year by Mr. S. Parker, Rodent Operator. The number of premises to which attention has been paid is as follows:—

Business premises	41
Council properties	20
Private dwellings	73
Sewer manholes	382

I wish to express my thanks for the co-operation and advice of Mr. Richard Davies, Regional Rodent Control Officer, and Mr. J. Cunningham, Infestation Officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Cinemas.

Inspections have been carried out at the seven cinemas in the Area. The supervision of these premises is improved by the co-operation of the Police.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS.

The meat for this Area is slaughtered at the Maesycwmmer Abattoir and at the Tredegar Abattoir. To enable a full-time Sanitary Inspector—qualified in Meat and Food Inspection—to be stationed at the Maesycwmmer Slaughterhouse, the Bedwellty Council agreed with the neighbouring Authorities to assist the Bedwas and Machen Council, in whose area the Abattoir is situated, to pay the salary of the Inspector.

Bedwellty pays 1/3rd (which amounted in 1948 to £97/10/6), Gelligaer pays 1/3rd, while Mynyddislwyn and Bedwas each pay 1/6th.

All the meat from the abattoir is inspected.

Below is a list submitted by Mr. Norman Rhodes, Meat Inspector at the Maesycwmmer Abattoir, of the animals slaughtered during 1948, and the meat condemned as unfit for human consumption.

The meat slaughtered in this slaughterhouse is consumed by the residents of Bedwas and Machen Area, part of Gelligaer Area, part of Bedwellty and Mynyddislwyn Areas.

Number of Animals Slaughtered.

2,605 cattle; 520 calves; 15,291 sheep, and 36 pigs.

Meat Condemned.

Total weight: 30 tons, 11 cwt., 2 qtrs., made up as follows:—

		Weight in lbs.
(a) Cattle.		
25	entire carcases	12,231
25	entire offals	4,350
42	forequarters and part forequarters	5,347
14	hindquarters	2,031
269	heads and tongues	8,608
8	tongues	32
3	heads	84
573	lungs	5,730
1,144	livers	16,016
911	part livers	3,644
79	hearts	474
139	mesenteries	4,170
15	stomachs	450
36	skirtings (diaphragms)	72
13	spleens	26
5	tails	10
	udders	300
	carcase trimmings	48
(b) Calves.		
2	entire carcases	56
2	entire offals	14
2	livers	5
(c) Sheep.		
7	entire carcases	282
7	entire offals	49
7	part carcases	80
	mutton fat	40
12	plucks	48
1,508	livers	3,016
1,112	lungs	1,112
6	heads and tongues	18

(d) Pigs.

1 entire carcase	110
1 entire offal	10
1 part forequarter	8
1 pluck	7
3 mesenteries	10

Number of Notices of intended slaughter of pigs by cottagers and farmers: 208.

The following articles were condemned as unfit for human consumption in shops and stores in the Bedwellty Area.

226½lbs. Butter.	14lbs. 2oz. Bacon.
238lbs. Beef.	110¼lbs. Cheese.
138lbs. Peas.	1½lbs. Currant cake.
43¾lbs. Prunes.	10 Chickens.
13lbs. Black pudding.	2lbs. Semolina
13 bottles Chutney.	8 pots Jam.
3 bottles Apricots	27 pots Marmalade.
3 pots Paste.	38 bottles Pickles.
16lbs. Luncheon beef.	2 tins Tongue.

633 tins of other food.

Approximate weight: 17 cwts., 52 lbs.

Public Mortuary and Post Mortem Room.

Number of autopsies conducted during the year, 28. These premises are under my supervision.

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

Requisitioned Properties.

Below is a list of premises requisitioned by the Council for housing purposes:—

1. Tredegar Chambers, Blackwood.
2. Tredegar Arms Hotel, Fleur-de-Lis.
3. 24, Commercial Street, Aberbargoed.
4. Lloyds Bank, New Tredegar.
5. 43, Commercial Street, Aberbargoed.

Police Court Proceedings.

Proceedings were taken against a number of owners of houses to comply with Abatement Notices under Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936, to carry out repairs. Orders were made in each case.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

DAN POWELL,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Number of Food Shops dealing in Rationed Goods in the District, 1948.

District	Grocers	Bakers	Butchers	Green-grocers	Fishfriers	Catering Estab.	Totals
New Tredegar ...	32	6	4	7	6	3	58
Aberbargoed ...	18	2	2	4	3	2	31
Pengam	9	1	—	—	2	—	11
Fleur-de-lis ...	14	1	2	3	3	1	24
Cefn Fforest ...	15	1	2	2	3	2	25
Blackwood ...	33	5	8	6	5	9	66
Argoed	6	1	1	1	1	—	10
Markham ...	5	—	2	1	1	1	11
Holly Bush ...	4	—	1	1	—	—	6
Totals	136	17	22	25	24	18	242

SHOPS ACTS, 1912-34.

Number of Shops and Shop Assistants in the Bedwellty District.

District	Lock-up Shops	Dwelling-House Shops	Sheds	Market Stalls	Total Premises	Shops Assistants Over 18 years	Under 18 years	Total
New Tredegar	76	48	—	—	124	42	71	113
Aberbargoed	33	10	1	—	44	38	13	51
Pengam, Fleur-de-lis ...	39	11	1	—	51	37	11	48
Cefn Fforest	11	16	—	—	27	14	3	17
Blaekwood	118	18	5	6	147	281	143	424
Argoed	10	2	4	—	16	5	1	6
Markham	8	—	3	—	11	8	1	9
Holly Bush	3	2	—	—	5	3	—	3
Totals	288	107	14	6	425	428	243	671